

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish Inventory Number: CH-226  
Address: 4535 Piney Church Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Waldorf Zip Code: 20602 County: Charles  
USGS Quadrangle(s): La Plata  
Property Owner: Vestry of Piney Church Parish Tax Account ID Number: 066739  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 55 Tax Map Number: 24  
Project: Cove Point Expansion Project Agency: FERC  
Agency Prepared By: GAI Consultants, Inc.  
Preparer's Name: Matthew Hyland Date Prepared: 9/9/2004  
Documentation is presented in: U.S. Rt. 301 South Corridor Transportation Study  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☒ A ☒ B ☒ C ☒ D Considerations: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☒ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no  
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

St. Paul's Church at Piney Parish was determined not-eligible for NRHP listing in 2000. At that time, the church was evaluated under Criterion C. The not-eligible determination was based on loss of integrity due to substantial renovations inside the church and the construction of a modern parish hall adjacent to the church building in 1964. Since that determination, the construction of a parking lot and another phase of construction at the parish hall has compromised further the integrity of the church.

This evaluation of the church considers its eligibility under Criteria A, B, D, and Criterion Considerations A and D.

The organization of St. Paul's Piney Parish dates to 1754. The original log building that served the Protestant parish was destroyed by fire in 1823. By 1833, the parish had constructed a new brick worship space. This building has been extensively altered, but the façade's original lancet arch window apertures remain in place.

According to the parish's history, a rector of the parish lived across the road from the church and conducted a school there in the last half of the nineteenth century (The History of St. Paul's <http://www.pineyparish.org/history.html>. Accessed 9 September 2004). These buildings are no longer extant. The area surrounding the church has been subdivided into residential housing developments.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

**MHT Comments:**

Andrew King  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

8/12/06  
Date

NA  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

200601758

CH-226

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish

Page 2

St. Paul's Church at Piney Parish does not possess an association with events important in local, state, or national history. The establishment of the parish occurred after the anti-proprietary rebellions of the seventeenth century. When it was established in 1754, it was within the Chapel of Ease of the Port Tobacco Parish. Although the parish history claims that the rector's school, established in 1833, was the first free school in Maryland, other free schools predate this one. For instance, Gov. Nicholson established a free school in Annapolis in the early 1700s. The church will not yield information significant to the history of religion.

No evidence linking the church to any person significant in national, state, or local affairs has been identified. It is not NRHP-eligible under Criterion B. Rev. Lemuel Wilmer, the rector who established a school on the property, is not an individual of transcendent importance in the community's history. The potential to obtain information important in prehistory or history from the resource does not exist. The resource is not NRHP-eligible under Criterion D. The church does not meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration A. The church lacks architectural distinction and historical importance. The church does not meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D. The graveyard does not possess the burials of individuals of transcendent importance in American history. It lacks distinctive design features and an association with historic events.

The church's history does not warrant listing the church building or the cemetery in the NRHP.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

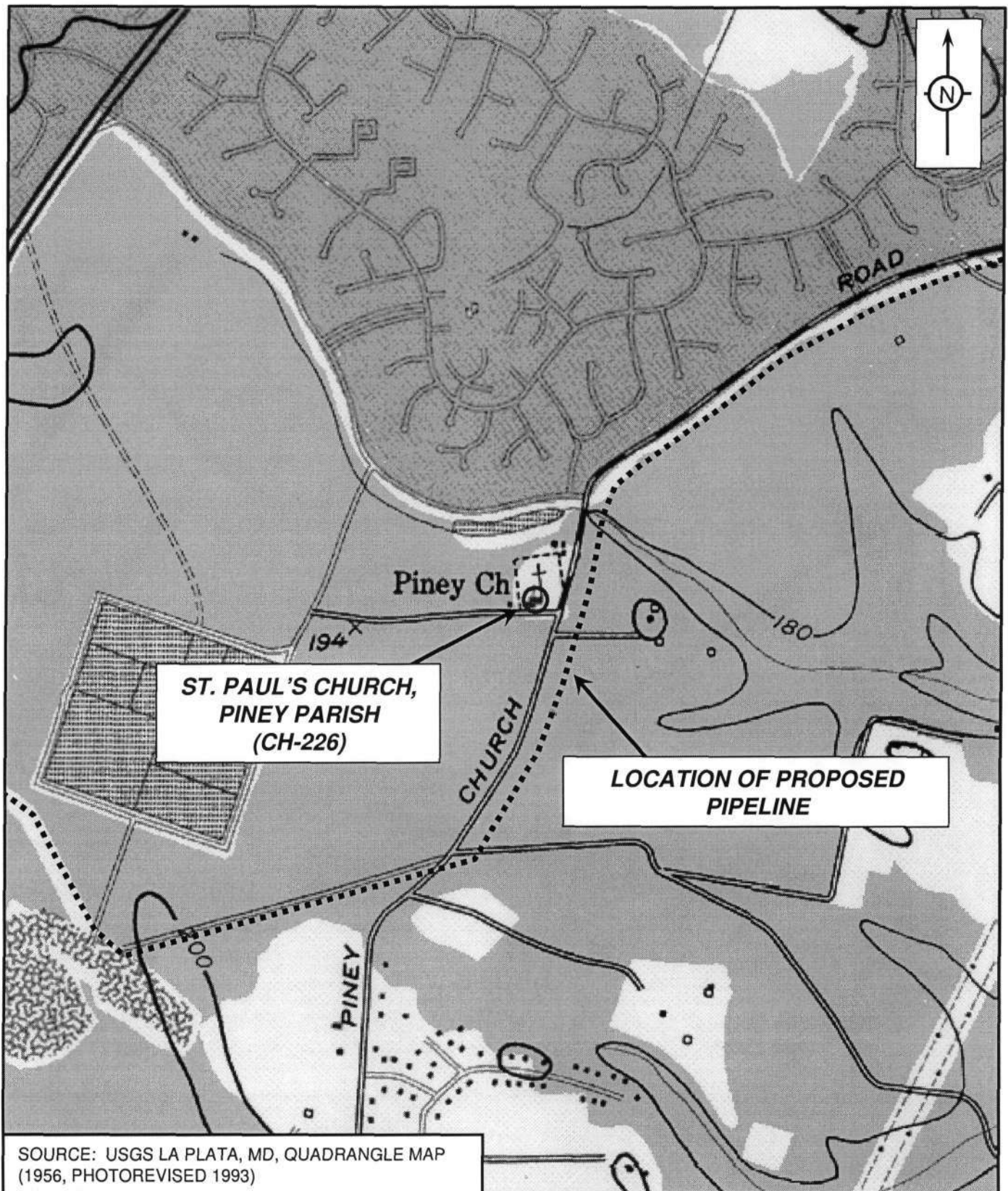
Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D Considerations: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D \_\_\_E \_\_\_F \_\_\_G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



SOURCE: USGS LA PLATA, MD, QUADRANGLE MAP (1956, PHOTOREVISED 1993)



# FIGURE

LOCATION OF CH-226  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PINEY  
PARISH  
COVE POINT PIPELINE  
EXPANSION PROJECT



Ch. 226 St. Pauls Church, Piney Parish.  
Waldorf vicinity, Charles county.  
Matthew G. Hyland  
BAI Consultants, Inc.  
S. elevation, facing N.W.  
September 2004

WFS NO. 3 1854 08\*\* N N N-182





3/4 Ch. 226 St. Pauls Church, Piney Parish  
Waldorf vicinity, Charles County

Matthew S. Hyland

GAI Consultants, Inc.

Facade and N. elevation, facing SW

September 2004

WFSNO. 3 854 08\*\* N N 1-122

Property Address St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
Owner Name/Address West Side of Piney Church Road  
Year Built ca.1831

### Description:

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish (Ch-226) was previously surveyed by the Charles County Planning Department in 1978. There has been one major alteration to the property since that time. The second addition to St. Paul's Church is the Ritter Fellowship Hall and it was constructed in 1994. The Fellowship Hall is located at the west end of the 1963 addition and the north exterior walls of that addition are now located within the new Fellowship Hall. A playground is located at the rear of the property and a parking lot dominates the southern section of the site. The two-story brick Fellowship Hall extends from west to east at the rear of the property and has been constructed over a section of St. Paul's cemetery. Tombstones are located at the new hall's entrance and have been incorporated into some of the walls.

Since the 1978 survey, the main sanctuary has undergone some minor interior alterations. The non-original concrete floor of the nave, sanctuary and narthex was carpeted in 1982. Thirty new pews were constructed and the historic pews were removed and sold in 1983. Air conditioning and paddle fans were installed in the main sanctuary in 1987. Brick restoration work was performed on the exterior walls in 1985. This work involved the removal of historic brick and mortar that had been damaged beyond repair. New brick and mortar to match in kind was re-installed.<sup>1</sup>

The cemetery, possibly dating back to the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, had not been previously mentioned in the 1978 survey. The earliest granite tombstone on the site is that of William Marbury Smallwood, 1741-1809. The tombstones are orientated to the east and are situated in alphabetical groupings. A majority of the granite tombstones are in good condition, highly detailed with carved ornamentation. Of particular note are the single wood marker, possibly dating from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, and the Victorian-era granite markers of the Wilmer family. It is expected that additional wood markers have deteriorated and are no longer extant, thus relinquishing the location of grave sites from the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The cemetery occupies a large portion of the church's property, extending across the east and north sections of the site.

### Significance:

St. Paul's Church has been an important part of Charles County since 1754 when it was known as the Chapel of Ease of Port Tobacco Parish. The original log church had burned prior to 1823 and a second brick church erected on the site had been destroyed as well (its location and construction history are not know). The 1831 church building that currently stands was design by Ignatius Spaulding of Washington, D.C. at a cost of \$1,550.00. The 1831 church incorporates a section of the brick church that had previously stood on the site, as well as portions of the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century log structure. The parish of Port Tobacco was divided in 1968 and the Chapel of Ease became known as St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish. Described as one of Charles County's more picturesque examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century rural ecclesiastical architecture, the modest brick church building has undergone several rebuilding campaigns to stabilize the structure, as well as substantial interior alterations.<sup>2</sup> As the congregation dates to 1754, and the present structure incorporates portions of an earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century structure, St. Paul's Church is considered one of the seven remaining 18<sup>th</sup> century Protestant churches in Charles County.

<sup>1</sup> *The History of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Piney Parish*, St. Paul's Church, Waldorf, Maryland, September, 1992.

<sup>2</sup> Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey, "St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish, CH-226," Prepared by J. Richard Rivoire, July 1978.



National Register Evaluation:

St. Paul's Church, constructed circa 1831, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, C, and D, but not under Criterion B. Preliminary research has revealed an association between the building and events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A), in particular the history of the Protestant church in Charles County, the Chapel of Ease of Port Tobacco Parish, and St. Paul's Church. The original section of St. Paul's Church is representative of rural ecclesiastical architecture, although it has undergone extensive interior and exterior alterations and additions. Yet, St. Paul's Church is eligible under Criterion C because it embodies the distinct characteristics of a particular building type, period, and method of construction. In addition, it represents the work of Washington, D.C. builder Ignatius Spaulding. In addition, the artistic detailing of the grave markers, including wood and granite headstones, is exceptional. The exceptional cemetery presents the property for evaluation under Criterion D as well as Criterion C.

**MHT CONCURRENCE:**

Eligibility \_\_\_\_\_ recommended ☒ not recommended

Criteria \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ B ☒ C \_\_\_\_\_ D Considerations \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ G \_\_\_\_\_ None

Comments: St. Paul's Church is not eligible  
due to massive rehabilitation. Integrity  
is questionable

Oliver 5/3/2000  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

B. Huntz  
Reviewer, NR program

8/14/00  
Date

*gmar*

CHAS-226  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH (Piney Parish)  
Waldorf  
Private

Eighteenth and nineteenth  
centuries

St. Paul's Church dates to 1754 when it was established as a Chapel of Ease of Port Tobacco Parish. The original structure is said to have been of log construction and burned prior to 1823. In that year a contract was awarded to Ignatius Spaulding of Washington, D.C. to build a new church. However, it appears evident that between the time the log building burned and the 1831 church was built, a second church had been constructed, somehow destroyed, and portions of its brick walls incorporated into the 1831 building. In 1968 Port Tobacco Parish was divided and the former Chapel of Ease became St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish, the name "Piney" deriving from its location in the midst of an extensive pine forest.

Although the exterior of the church retains many of its 1831 architectural details, the most notable being its attractively executed lancet arches, much of its earlier interior features have been altered or removed as a result of several extensive alterations. Since the church history dates from 1754 and the present building incorporates portions of an earlier eighteenth century structure, St. Paul's is considered one of the seven remaining eighteenth century Protestant churches in Charles County.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS-226

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY MAGI #0902264408

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PINEY PARISH

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side Piney Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Waldorf

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

— YES: RESTRICTED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

— NO

#### PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

— PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

— OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Washington

— VICINITY OF

D.C.

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Street (P. O. Box B)

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland 20646

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CH-226

**CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish, is one of Charles County's more picturesque examples of nineteenth century rural ecclesiastical architecture. A rectangular brick structure, it has later additions at both ends, including a modern, semi-detached, two story parish hall.

Although it is said that the present structure, excluding additions, was completed in 1831, replacing the original 1754 log church destroyed by fire, a close scrutiny of its masonry suggests that the existing building incorporates portions of the brickwork of an earlier, possibly eighteenth century structure.

The front of St. Paul's is at the east end and has a later three bay entrance vestibule. Flanking the vestibule are single lancet arched windows, with a third window located in the gable. The front of the vestibule has a centered lancet arched doorway framing double leaf doors. Flanking the door are two narrow lancet arched windows. All of the windows of this elevation, except the two windows flanking the door which are fixed, frame leaded, diamond patterned stained glass casement windows, each with a wide, vertical mullion and molded frames. This same treatment is repeated on the side and west end elevation.

The north elevation is presently four bays in length, all being lancet arched windows; a fifth opening, a lancet arched doorway located at the west end of the elevation, has been bricked in. The south side elevation has three lancet arched windows; the remaining area of this elevation between the third window and the west end is now covered by the hyphen connecting the church to the parish hall. The west end elevation has experienced the greatest number of alterations with many of its original features covered by a late-nineteenth century extension of the sanctuary and a sacristy. The newer sanctuary has a large, segmentally arched triple window in its west wall. Above the roof line can be seen the arches of what appears to have been an apse at this end of the original structure, as well as smaller lancet arches from flanking windows and a window in the gable above. All of the earlier openings have been bricked in.

The roofs of all parts of the church are sheathed with composition shingles. The roof of the 1831 structure has overhanging eaves on all four sides. The eaves of the side elevation remain open and unornamented. The overhanging roof of the rear elevation is boxed while that of the front elevation is decorated by jigsaw brackets.

The masonry of the 1831 structure, the main body of the church, reflects two periods of construction. The 1831 masonry is of common bond with the lancet arches of the windows and former north door constructed of darker red brick. The south side wall, however, is almost entirely of Flemish bond with scored mortar joints, the

(continued on the attached sheet)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	1831	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Ignatius Spaulding
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

St. Paul's Church dates to 1754 when it was established as a Chapel of Ease of Port Tobacco Parish. The original structure is said to have been of log construction and burned prior to 1823. In that year a contract was awarded to Ignatius Spaulding of Washington, D.C. to build a new church. However, it appears evident that between the time the log building burned and the 1831 church was built, a second church had been constructed, somehow destroyed, and portions of its brick walls incorporated into the 1831 building. In 1968 Port Tobacco Parish was divided and the former Chapel of Ease became St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish, the name "Piney" deriving from its location in the midst of an extensive pine forest.

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

St. Paul's Church and cemetery are located on P/O P. 1, Map 24, Charles County Tax Maps (revised January 1976).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

July, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

645-6537

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

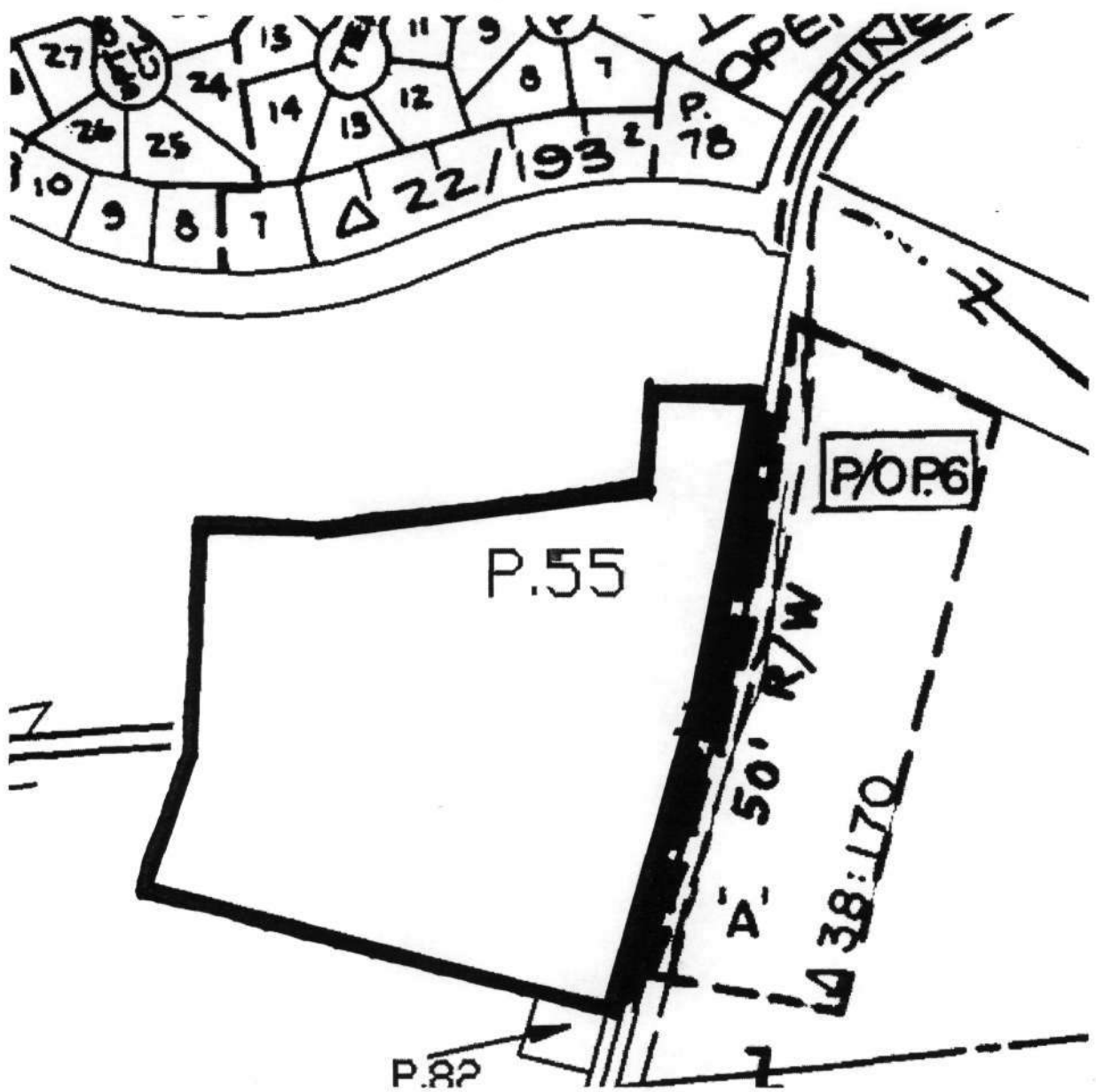


Continuation of #7 (Description)--ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PINEY PARISH  
Page 2

quality of the brickwork contrasting with the less carefully executed common bond brickwork. While the existing windows of this elevation occupy earlier window openings, the lancet arches have obviously been added. The wall was also raised by the addition of several courses of common bond brick. On the east end elevation portions of the earlier brickwork can be seen to the left of the entrance vestibule, from the ground level up to just below the eave level. Additional Flemish bond brickwork can also be seen to the right of the vestibule, but this is limited to a small area below the window.

The parish hall is the most recent of the additions to St. Paul's Church and was constructed within the last decade. An open, wood framed belfry is mounted on the roof of the hyphen connecting the parish hall to the church and holds the bell from the 1831 church.

CH: 226 St. Paul's Church  
Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Parcel 55, Grid 4, Map 24  
N ↑





CH-226  
St. Paul's Church Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
View of east elevation  
1 of 13



CH-226

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West Side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

February 2000

MD SH PO

View of Cemetery, looking west

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CH-226

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West Side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

February 2000

MD SHPO

view of North elevation

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CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

February 2000

MD SHPO

View of cemetery, looking west

4 of 13



DAUGHTER OF  
REV. GUY S. ...  
OF BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

EDWARD S. ...

Son of the same family  
Member of the ...

CH-286  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

February 2000

MD SHPO  
view of cemetery, looking northwest

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CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries  
February 2000  
MDS HPO

View of north elevation

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CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
west side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Tracenes  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
View of west elevation  
7 of 13



CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
west side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
view of west elevation  
8 of 13



CH-226

St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
west side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

February 2000

MD SHPO

View looking Northwest

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CH 226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
west side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD

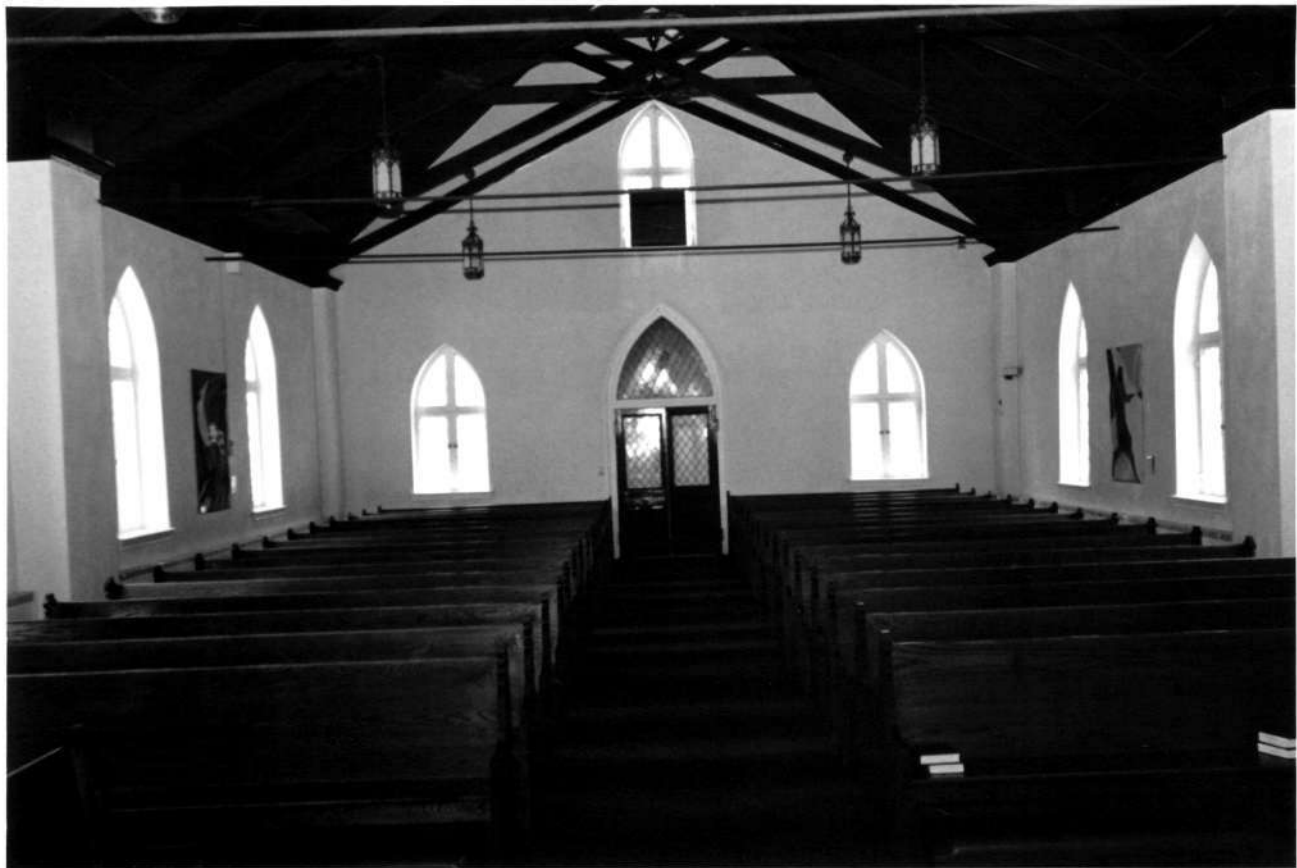
Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
view of south elevation  
10 of 13



CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
view of altar, looking west  
11 of 13



CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
Detail of altar, looking west  
12 of 13



CH-226  
St. Paul's Church, Piney Parish  
West side of Piney Church Road  
Charles County, MD  
Traceries  
February 2000  
MD SHPO  
View of east side of sanctuary  
13 of 13





1 ~~P-23~~ P.87 CH 226

60 1/2 1

ST. PAUL'S

CH-226

CHAS-226

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH; View  
From N.E. R.Rivoire, 1978



ST. PAUL'S

CH-226

CHAS-226

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH; East  
Front. J.R.Rivoire, 1978